

Since these plants are found growing very near the seashore at Mundapahar, it is also assumed that they may be an exotic introduction brought in long ago which escaped from gardens and naturalised. *Asparagus* species with horticultural scope are widely cultivated in tropics and sub-tropics for the appealing floristic shape and form. This economically and

horticulturally important species could probably be a promising genetic resource.

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REFERENCE

Vasudeva Rao, M.K. (1986). A preliminary report on the Angiosperms of Andaman and Nicobar Islands. *Econ. Tax. Bot.* 8(1): 107-184.

34. *POA HARAE* RAJB. (POACEAE): A NEW RECORD FOR INDIA

(With one text-figure)

During recent plant explorations in the alpine zone of Garhwal Himalaya, some interesting specimens of *Poa* L. were collected. After thorough checking of literature and consultation of Herbaria at Botanical Survey of India, Northern circle, Dehra Dun (BSD) and Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun (DD), these specimens were identified as *Poa harae* Rajb.

This species was earlier described by Rajbhandari (1988), believed to be endemic to E. Nepal, however, the recent collection from the alpine zone of Garhwal Himalaya not only represented its westward distribution but also an addition of *Poa* species in India.

A description, and line diagrams of various parts of the plant specimens are given to facilitate identification. The voucher specimens are deposited at the Herbarium, Department of Botany, H.N.B. Garhwal University, Srinagar (Garhwal), India (GUH).

Poa harae Rajb. in *Acta Phytotax. Geobot.* 39: 55. 1988; Rajbhandari in *THE HIMALAYAN PLANTS* (ed. Ohba & Mala) 2: 205-206. 1991.

Perennial, tall, tufted grass, with stoloniferous base. Culms terete, erect, 20-40 x 0.1-0.15 cm, minutely scabrous below the panicle; nodes 2-3. Leaf blades flat, linear,

acuminate, 8-12 x 0.1-0.15 cm, nerves and margins minutely scabrid; Sheaths 6-10 cm long, glabrous; ligules oblong, acute, 2.6-3 mm long. Panicles oblong, 4.5-9 x 0.8-1.5 cm; branches spreading; axis terete, scabrid; lower branches 2-5, scabrid; pedicels scabrid; spikelets mostly proliferating. Normal spikelets elliptic, 4-5 mm long, with 2-3 florets. Lower glumes lanceolate, acute, 3.2 mm long, 3-nerved, glabrous, with scabrid keel on the upper part; Upper glumes elliptic, acute, 4 mm long, 3-nerved, glabrous, with scabrid keel above. Rhachillas 0.8-1 mm long, smooth. Callus glabrous. Lowest lemmas elliptic-lanceolate, acute, 4.2 mm long, minutely scabrid on surface, margins hyaline, keel ciliate on lower part to the middle, scabrid above, marginal nerves ciliate on lower part. Paleas elliptic-oblong, 3.5 mm long, outer surface glabrous, with scabrid keels. Anthers 1.1-1.5 mm long.

Fl. & Fr.: Aug.-Sept.

Habitat: Along crevices, rock shelters, of moist alpine glacier zones, 4600-4800 m, Gaumukh (Uttarkashi).

Distribution: E. Nepal, India, NW Himalaya; in moist habitats of alpine meadows or along glaciers.

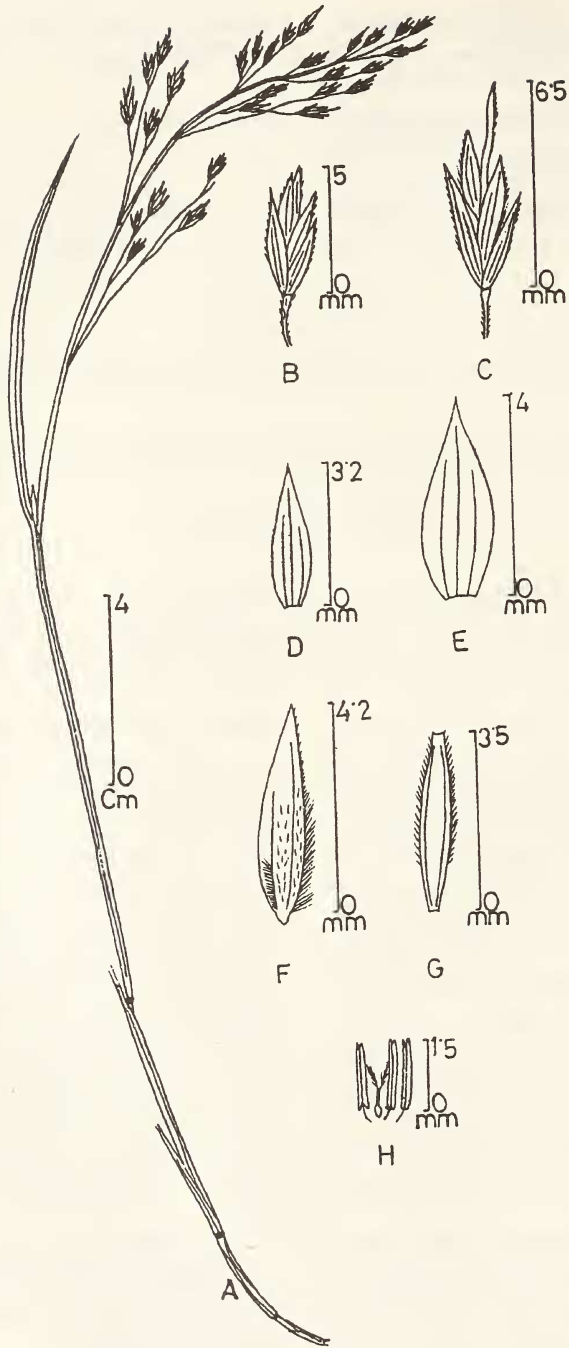


Fig. 1. A-H. *Poa harae* Rajb.
 A. Plant; B. Normal spikelet; C. Proliferous spikelet; D. Lower glume; E. Upper glume;
 F. Lowest lemma; G. Palea; H. Anthers, Styles, Stigmas and Ovary.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

Specimen examined: India, Nandanvan (Uttarkashi), 4600-4800 m, Aug, 1997, D.C. Nautiyal, GUH: 13504.

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ERRATA

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For *superciliaris* read *parva*